

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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2014 JUN -2 PM 4:55

OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

MUR. No.

6834

In the matter of:

Lynn Jenkins
Lynn Jenkins for Congress, and
Heather Grote, in her official
capacity as treasurer

COMPLAINT

1. Kansas Democratic Party ("KDP") and Jason Perkey bring this complaint before the Federal Election Commission ("FEC") seeking an immediate investigation and enforcement action against Lynn Jenkins, her principal campaign committee, the Lynn Jenkins for Congress Committee, and Heather Grote, in her official capacity as treasurer, for direct and serious violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act ("FECA").

2. Complainant KDP is a non-profit state political party operating in the State of Kansas. KDP is committed to the ideal that government should represent the people, and that wealth and privilege shouldn't entitle anyone to govern. The values of honesty, integrity, hard work, and responsibility are the values that guide the KDP. The KDP's mission is to elect government officials who share these values.

3. The KDP relies on the FEC's proper administration of the FEC's reporting requirements because the FECA-mandates reports of receipts and disbursements are the only source of information the KDP can use to determine if a candidate, political committee or other regulated entity is complying with the FECA. The proper administration of the FECA's reporting requirements includes mandating that all reports of receipts and disbursements required by the FECA are properly and timely filed with the FEC. The KDP is hindered in its

15044341540

programmatic activity when candidates, political committees or other regulated entities fail to abide by the FECA's reporting requirements.

4. Complainant Jason Perkey is the executive director of the Kansas Democratic Party, a citizen of the United States and a registered voter in the State of Kansas. As a registered voter, Mr. Perkey is entitled to receive information contained in reports of receipts and disbursements required by the FECA, 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(2); 11 C.F.R. § 104.1. Mr. Perkey is harmed when a candidate, political committee or other regulated entity fails to report campaign finance activity as required by the FECA. *See FEC v. Akins*, 524 U.S. 11, 19 (1998), quoting Buckley v. Valeo, 424 U.S. 1, 66-67 (1976) (political committees must disclose contributors and disbursements to help voters understand who provides which candidates with financial support).

Respondents

5. Lynn Jenkins is the United State Representative for the Second Congressional District of Kansas.

6. The Lynn Jenkins for Kansas Committee is the principal campaign committee of Lynn Jenkins. Heather Grote is the treasurer of the Lynn Jenkins for Kansas Committee.

Factual Allegations

7. According to the 2013 Quarter Statement of Disbursements for the House of Representatives, Mr. William Roe has served as District Director for Congresswoman Jenkins' official legislative staff. (attached as Exhibits A, B, C, and D).

8. According to his LinkedIn profile, Mr. Roe lists himself as the campaign manager for Lynn Jenkins since February 2012 to the present. (attached as Exhibit E).

9. Multiple new articles in 2013 and 2014 have attributed Mr. Roe as "spokesman" and "campaign manager" for Lynn Jenkins' re-election campaign. (attached Exhibits F, G, H, and I).

10. As Lynn Jenkins's campaign manager, Mr. Roe provided services to the campaign that require compensation or must be considered a contribution to the campaign.

11. FEC regulations specifically require a candidate to report all receipts and operating expenditures: itemized, unitemized, and totals.

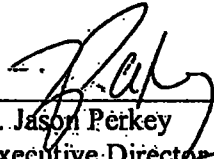
12. Since the 2012 Year-End Report, in no place does Mr. Roe's services appear in any of the Lynn Jenkins for Kansas detailed FEC quarterly or year-end reports.

COUNT 1

13. By failing to disclose the receipt for Mr. Roe's in-kind contribution of his time spent serving as "spokesperson" and/or "campaign manager", Lynn Jenkins, the Lynn Jenkins for Kansas Committee, and Heather Grote, in her official capacity as treasurer, committee multiple violations of 11 C.F.R. 104.3.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, the Kansas Democratic Party and Jason Perkey request that the Federal Election Commission conduct an investigation into these allegations, declare the respondents to have violated the Federal Election Campaign Act and applicable FEC regulations, and impose sanctions appropriate to these violations and take such further actions as may be appropriate, including, but not limited to, conducting an audit of the Lynn Jenkins for Kansas Committee.


C. Jason Perkey
Executive Director
Kansas Democratic Party

700 SW Jackson Street, Suite 404
Topeka, KS 66603
(785) 234-0425 (Phone)
(785) 234-8420 (Fax)

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me this 28th day of May, 2014

Notary

Kathryn McDonald



1504424152

Exhib. 7A

[illegible]

2.1.19.13

51451-13446011

TRAVEL	55,113.94
RENT, COMMUNICATION, UTILITIES	91,488.21
PRINTING AND REPRODUCTION	7,058.37
OTHER SERVICES	49,304.90
SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	8,212.72
EQUIPMENT	1,389.00
OFFICIAL EXPENSES OF MEMBERS TOTALS	250,774.20
OFFICE TOTALS	251,774.20

TRAVEL	26,944.57
RENT, COMMUNICATION, UTILITIES	32,514.37
PRINTING AND REPRODUCTION	515.11
OTHER SERVICES	13,571.16
SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	1,704.23
EQUIPMENT	588.76
OFFICIAL EXPENSES OF MEMBERS TOTALS	75,338.00
OFFICE TOTALS	75,338.00

OFFICIAL EXPENSES OF MEMBERS

07-23	MP	00688239	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	06/01/73	06/30/73	FRANKED MAIL	1,819.82
07-31	CL	FL0031502	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	07/01/73	07/31/73	FRANKED MAIL	-76.80
08-29	MP	00685501	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	07/01/73	07/31/73	FRANKED MAIL	970.11
08-30	CL	FL0012293	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	08/01/73	08/31/73	FRANKED MAIL	-17.50
08-26	MP	00688415	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	08/01/73	08/31/73	FRANKED MAIL	1,411.39
09-30	CL	FL0012155	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	08/01/73	08/31/73	FRANKED MAIL	-35.25
							4,001.77

PERSONNEL COMPENSATION

07-01/73	ASKEVALEEN	MILITARY AIDE	11,874.99
07-01/73	BAUGEL R P	SHINED EMPLOYEE	3,070.00
07-01/73	BETRE LAUREN A	LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENT	9,249.99
07-01/73	BOHRENG BRADY M	LEGISLATIVE AIDE	9,939.99
07-01/73	BOHRENG COLIN C	LEGISLATIVE AIDE	12,750.00
07-01/73	BRADY THOMAS W	LEGISLATIVE AIDE	12,500.01
07-01/73	BYRLEY MICHAEL W	SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR	7,500.00
07-01/73	CHAPMAN M	STAFF ASSISTANT	13,749.99
07-01/73	HODGERS LAUREN	PRESS SECRETARY	9,999.99
07-01/73	JASPAULYER E	SCHOLAR	28,667
07-01/73	KARLSON M	PAID INTERN	3,384.16
07-01/73	KARLSON RICHARD N	STAFF AIDE	15,750.00
07-01/73	LEOPOLD PATRICK R	LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL	11,874.99
07-01/73	LEWISON JOSEPH Z	CHIEF OF STAFF	4,000.00
07-01/73	LIRA AURELIA A	PAID INTERN	1,400.00
07-01/73	MATTHE MICHAEL V	PAID INTERN	7,500.00
07-01/73	MORLEY MORGAN K	STAFF AIDE	1,386.67
07-01/73	MORLEY MICHAEL R	STAFF AIDE	11,750.01
07-01/73	ROSE WILLIAM A	LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT	16,250.01
07-01/73	RYAN STEPHEN L	DISTRICT DIRECTOR	9,624.99
07-01/73	SCHWITZ ERIC D	LEGISLATIVE AIDE	27,500.01
07-01/73	SPANGHARD ROBERT L	LEGISLATIVE AIDE	9,999.99
07-01/73	UNDERWOOD JESSICA D	LEGISLATIVE AIDE	13,625.01
07-01/73	YAGER ALEXANDRA R	DISTRICT SCHEDULING AIDE	1,316.66
07-01/73	YAGER ALEXANDRA R	PAID INTERN	183.33
07-01/73	YORK ADRIE E	TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE	3,056.67
		STAFF AIDE	275,044.13

TRAVEL

07-02	MP	E0034558	TRAVEL SUBSIDENCE	05/05/73	590.16
07-02	MP	E0035281	PRIVATE AUTO RENTAL	06/02/73	390.00

PERSONNEL COMPENSATION TOTALS

590.16
390.00

Exhibit c

MEMBERS REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOW—Con.
2013 NON LYNN JENNERS—Con.

DATE	VOUCHER NO.	PAYEE	SERVICE DATES	DESCRIPTION	YTD AMOUNT	QUARTERLY AMOUNT
MEMBERS REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOW—Col.						
2013 MON. LYNN JENNIS—Col.						
		BAUER, R. P.	10/01/13	SHARED EMPLOYEE		3,000.00
		BEEDER LAUREN A	10/01/13	LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENT		10,493.99
		BOWING, BRIANON M	12/31/13	CONGRESSIONAL AIDE		11,249.99
		BRANARD COLIN C	10/01/13	LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT		14,000.00
		BRADY, THOMAS W	12/31/13	SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR		13,750.01
		BYERLY, MICHAEL W	10/01/13	STAFF ASSISTANT		8,750.00
		CHITTY, JAM M	10/01/13	PRESS SECRETARY		14,999.99
		HERNDON, WHELFELD S	12/01/13	PROFESSIONAL STAFF MGR		5,000.00
		HOOPER LAUREN	10/01/13	SCHEDULER		11,249.99
		JASPART, TYLER E	12/12/13	PAID INTERIM		600.00
		KARELLAS, NICHOLAS K	10/01/13	LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL		17,000.00
		LEIPOLD, PATRICK R	12/31/13	CHIEF OF STAFF		13,124.99
		LIRA LAUREN A	10/01/13	PAID INTERIM		4,000.00
		MARRAS, MICHAEL V	12/20/13	STAFF AIDE		4,000.00
		MEDMANN, GINGER R	10/01/13	LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT		13,000.01
		ROE, WILLIAM A	12/31/13	DISTRICT DIRECTOR		17,500.01
		RYAN, STEPHANIE L	10/01/13	CONGRESSIONAL AIDE		10,874.99
		SCHWARTZ, ERIC D	12/31/13	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT		28,750.01
		SPACHNOLO, ROBERT L	10/01/13	CONGRESSIONAL AIDE		11,249.99
		UNDERWOOD, MELISSA D	10/01/13	DISTRICT SCHEDULING AIDE		14,875.01
		YAGER, ALEXANDRA R	12/20/13	TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE		1,333.33
					PERSONNEL COMPENSATION TOTALS:	241,933.30

150721

Exhibit D

Bill Roe

Campaign Manager at Lynn Jenkins for Congress
Topeka, Kansas Area | Government Administration

Current: Lynn Jenkins for Congress, Kansas 2nd District Offices
Previous: Lynn Jenkins for Congress, Kansas Secretary of State
Education: University of Kansas

Connect

Send Bill InMail

269
connections



www.linkedin.com/pub/bill-roe/5b01/86

Background



Experience

Campaign Manager

Lynn Jenkins for Congress

February 2012 – Present (2 years 4 months) | Topeka, Kansas Area

District Director for Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins

Kansas 2nd District Offices

March 2010 – Present (4 years 3 months)

Political Director

Lynn Jenkins for Congress

2010 – March 2012 (2 years)



Exhib. 16

Lawrence lawyer eyeing run against Jenkins

Democrat Margie Wakefield cites farm bill as reason to take on Republican incumbent in state's Second District

Posted: July 15, 2013 - 9:01am

By Andy Marso

andy.marso@cjonline.com

Lawrence lawyer Margie Wakefield announced Monday she will explore running against Lynn Jenkins in 2014 for Kansas' 2nd District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Wakefield has maintained her Lawrence law firm, where she practices family law, since 1985. A Democrat, she says she wants to unseat Jenkins because she believes the Republican incumbent is a cog in the non-functioning Congressional machinery.

"I'm running because Washington is broken," Wakefield said. "People in the Second District want people who can attempt to solve problems, not just take very rigid positions that say 'no, we won't do this' or 'no, we won't do that.' "

Jenkins, an accountant from Topeka, has been in the U.S. House since 2009. She is the senior member of the Kansas delegation and vice chair of the House Republican Conference. She defeated Topeka minister Tobias Schlingensiepen last year to earn a third term.

Jenkins spokesman Bill Roe emailed a statement quoting Kansas Democratic Party spokesman Dakota Loomis saying the party's federal candidates need to get "out from the shadow" of President Barack Obama in 2014. Roe suggested Wakefield wouldn't be a candidate who could do that.

"In the wake of these comments, it seems odd to hear a Democrat candidate for federal office is the chairperson Mr. Loomis serves under in Douglas County; a candidate who 'hearts Obamacare' and previously expressed concern with liberal Democrats compromising with moderate Democrats during the passage of Obamacare," Roe said. "Congresswoman Jenkins' opposition to that legislation is consistent with public opinion of 2nd District residents and that has been reflected at the ballot box."

Wakefield, in a phone interview Monday, said there is a clear distinction to be drawn between herself and Jenkins on the federal health care reforms spearheaded by Obama. Jenkins has repeatedly called for a full repeal of the law, which Wakefield said ignores the popularity of individual components like mandating coverage for those with pre-existing conditions and allowing children to remain on their parents' coverage up to age 26.

Wakefield pointed to the U.S. House's recent decision to sever food stamps from its farm bill as an example of Republicans turning their backs on long-honored compromises.

Wakefield, who worked in then Sen. Bob Dole's Topeka office shortly after finishing college in 1980, noted that including food stamps in the farm bill was part of an urban-rural compact reached by Dole and Sen. George McGovern.

"The Farm Bill was one of Senator Dole's greatest accomplishments, a legacy of bi-partisan cooperation," Wakefield said. "I'm outraged that Lynn Jenkins once again put partisan politics before the best interest of Kansas families. Why would she vote in favor of a bill opposed by more than 500 agriculture organizations, including the Kansas Farm Bureau?"

Jenkins, in a newsletter, said she made the vote because "our current farm policy is inefficient and outdated" and she refuses to accept the status quo. She said the House's bill improves crop insurance, eliminates direct payments and saves "nearly \$20 billion."

"This is progress, and will allow us to come together with the Senate to create a better system than we currently have today," Jenkins said. "Doing nothing, yet again, would have been irresponsible and put our food security at risk."

Exhibit F

The House vote was 216-208, with no Democrats voting for the bill and 12 Republicans voting against it.

Wakefield said she was drawn to the Republican party as a young woman by people like Dole, but as times have changed and politics have become more "polarized" she gravitated toward the Democrats. She was a delegate to that party's 2008 national convention and serves as chairwoman of the Douglas County Democratic Party and the Second Congressional District Caucus.

Wakefield said she is interested in reaching across the aisle.

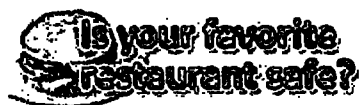
"I know how to work with Republicans," Wakefield said. "I've been in Lawrence 30 years and we have a very strong base of Republicans here. I know these people, I respect them and we've worked together on all kinds of community efforts."

Roe also noted Jenkins has had some of her highest-ever fundraising quarters of late, and will report \$1.25 million cash on hand on her next campaign finance filing.

Wakefield acknowledged she faces an uphill fundraising fight, but said she has already begun seeking potential donors and downplayed the importance of campaign war chests.

Andy Marso can be reached at Capital: (785) 233-7470; Office: (785) 295-5619 or andy.marso@cjonline.com.
Follow Andy on Twitter [@andymarso](https://twitter.com/andymarso).

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Wakefield: Jenkins needs to own D.C. dysfunction

Democrat lines up to challenge three-term GOP incumbent

Posted: July 28, 2013 · 4:49pm

By: Tim Carpenter

timothy.carpenter@cjonline.com

LAWRENCE — Attorney Margie Wakefield's political future hinges upon convincing a majority of voters in Topeka and other 2nd District territory that U.S. Rep. Lynn Jenkins lost touch with issues most salient to Kansans.

Wakefield, who is seeking the Democratic Party's nomination in 2014 in a presumptive challenge to Jenkins, said time had come to resolve partisan dysfunction embedded in debates on health insurance, agriculture and education in Washington, D.C. In terms of Kansas, she said, a logical step would be defeat of Jenkins, a third-term Republican who sits near the top of current House GOP hierarchy.

"You can't keep in the same old groove that we've been going on in terms of Congress," Wakefield said in an interview. "It's not working for the American people. It's not working for Kansans."

"Do I have a magic wand? Do I think I can go to Washington and change things overnight? Certainly not, but I think I have skills that I can bring to it. You have to start one person at a time."

Wakefield hadn't previously sought public office but serves as chairwoman of the Douglas County Democratic Party. Assuming victory in the August 2014 primary, she would be in line to challenge an incumbent with three general-election victories in the district and a campaign account that holds more than \$1 million.

Bill Roe, spokesman for Jenkins' re-election campaign, said Wakefield was an advocate for the federal health insurance reform signed into law by President Barack Obama and supportive of a national system of limiting pollution through "cap-and-trade" market mechanisms. Jenkins has been a critic of both the insurance and energy policies.

"Congresswoman Jenkins is focusing on policies that empower hard-working Kansans, such as crafting a fairer, flatter tax code and knocking down government-created barriers to folks finding good-paying jobs," Roe said.

The 2nd District stretches from Nebraska to Oklahoma in eastern Kansas and captures Topeka and Lawrence. It doesn't include Manhattan or the Kansas City metropolitan area. Jenkins resides in Topeka and Washington.

Wakefield, who grew up in St. Joseph, Mo., earned a journalism degree at The University of Missouri and a law diploma at The University of Kansas. She worked for Sen. Bob Dole, a Kansas Republican, before enrolling in law school. She has practiced in Lawrence for 28 years, and opened her own office dedicated to family law in 1994.

She said years of engagement in some of life's challenging moments — divorce cases, for example — required skills useful to managing political wrangling typical of Washington.

"You have to be able to find middle ground," Wakefield said. "People, for the most part, don't want to take it to the mat or take the nuclear option. I work with both sides. That's the sort of skill I can bring to a run for Congress and to represent people from the 2nd Congressional district."

Wakefield said Jenkins was elected in 2008 on a platform defining Washington as a broken culture she would work to reform. Instead, Wakefield contends, the GOP congresswoman embraced polarization.

Exhibit 4

"One of her quotes is that she's proud to be from the party of no," Wakefield said. "She has been part of the gridlock, this paralysis, and she can't run away from that. She has to take responsibility." Wakefield said her contact with voters in the district made clear their was anxiety about the fundamentals of steady employment and quality education. She mentioned an acquaintance who lost her Head Start job amid federal budget cuts, which contributed to that family losing their home.

"This is the kind of thing that is going on in this district that needs to be addressed," Wakefield said. "Standing up and saying, 'I'm in Republican leadership in DC,' is not doing anything for the people of this district."

Jenkins voted for House bills to repeal Obamacare, while Wakefield would prefer to modify an imperfect federal law laudable for addressing the taboo of pre-existing conditions, extending coverage to children until age 26 and authorizing preventative medical services.

"Is it perfect? No, it's not. If I'm elected, we can look at provisions that need to be fixed," Wakefield said. Wakefield questioned a vote by Jenkins to divide consideration of the food stamp program from calculation of subsidies to farmers. The topics had been lumped together for decades to reinforce a bipartisan approach.

"It's a holistic package," Wakefield said. "The whole bottom line is: How do we feed people? How do we take care of people?"

Tim Carpenter can be reached at (785) 295-1158 or timothy.carpenter@cjonline.com. Follow Tim on Twitter [@TimVCarpenter](https://twitter.com/TimVCarpenter). Read [Tim's blog](#).

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Posted on Fri, Jan. 31, 2014

Kansas Republicans feel a persistent pull toward the right

By DAVE HELLING and STEVE KRASKE
The Kansas City Star

It looks like the Kansas congressional delegation is moving to the right.

It won't be easy. Kevin Yoder, Lynn Jenkins, Mike Pompeo and Tim Huelskamp, Republicans all, are already thought to comprise the most conservative delegation in the nation.

But observers from both parties said last week that the potential of tea party primary challenges, coupled with ambition and conviction, may have led the four to conclude it's impossible to be too conservative in 2014 Kansas.

"That's exactly what they think," said Bob Beatty, political science professor at Washburn University in Topeka. "In Kansas, there's less and less fighting between moderates and conservatives. Now it's between conservatives and other conservatives."

That dynamic has been evident for months on the Senate side, where incumbent Sen. Pat Roberts is responding to tea party challenger Milton Wolf with increasingly conservative statements and votes.

But over the last 10 days of January, conservative state Sen. Steve Fitzgerald of Leavenworth said he would challenge Jenkins in the 2nd District Republican primary, in and around Topeka. And former U.S. Rep. Todd Tiahrt, also a fixture on the party's right, refused to rule out a GOP primary challenge to Pompeo in the 4th District in Wichita.

Fitzgerald said his opposition would be based at least partly on ideology — that Jenkins isn't conservative enough, at least on some issues.

"She's had some votes, where she has been compelled by leadership, by (House Speaker John) Boehner ... that are not good," Fitzgerald said.

Tiahrt, whose 2010 Senate campaign staked out solidly conservative territory, said he would make an issue of Pompeo's effectiveness in Congress if he runs.

"We just want somebody who's going to fight for us," he said, mentioning ongoing layoffs in Wichita's aviation industry.

Jenkins and Pompeo are unlikely to face serious Democratic opposition this year. That means their biggest threats, if they develop, will come from the GOP right.

Both have plenty of campaign cash. Jenkins will still be considered a strong favorite. Yet Pompeo might have more difficulty against Tiahrt, who once held the House seat and is well-known in the Wichita area.

Pompeo firmly rejected any claim that he's vulnerable to a tea party primary challenge, from Tiahrt or anyone else.

"I'm pretty focused on ... the people of the 4th District," he said. "I don't spend a lot of time thinking about things outside of that box."

Jenkins campaign spokesman Bill Roe also brushed aside any tea party critique of the incumbent.

Jenkins "boasts one of the more conservative records in Congress, consistent with the values of eastern Kansans," he said in a prepared statement.

Kansas remains a conservative state. A Gallup poll, released last week, showed Kansas voters are more Republican than all but four other states: Idaho, Utah, North Dakota and Wyoming.

Exhibit H

And the voting records of all four Kansans in the House show a consistently conservative tilt. In 2012, a study by The Kansas City Star showed the Kansas delegation cast the most conservative votes of any state delegation in the country.

But Democrats — and some Republicans — said fears of tea party politics may now be pushing the votes of Kansas House members even more to the right.

On Wednesday, for example, the House considered a final version of the farm bill, a \$956 billion, 10-year package of agriculture subsidies and nutrition programs.

Reliably conservative, safe-seat Republicans — including Sam Graves and Vicky Hartzler of Missouri, Ted Poe of Texas, Darrell Issa of California — lined up to approve the measure. The GOP leadership in the House recommended approval, as did the American Farm Bureau Federation and other farm lobbying groups.

Yet two groups with strong tea party sympathies, the Club for Growth and Heritage Action, denounced the bill. They said they would "score" a vote for the measure as anti-conservative. Conservative bloggers also criticized the measure as bloated, pointing out that it would spend more than \$750 billion over 10 years on food stamps.

All four Kansas House members voted no — on what is arguably the single most important piece of federal legislation in Kansas.

Pompeo said it would be "ludicrous" to suggest he cast that vote because of pressure from the right. And in a prepared statement, Jenkins said she opposed the bill because it "costs too much and fails to achieve any significant regulatory reform."

Huelskamp also said the bill was too expensive. Yoder agreed, and pointed to the opposition of Kansas cattle producers to the final product.

But Democrats claimed the four GOP members opposed the bill because they feared later criticism for supporting any government spending, even farm subsidies that are critical in Kansas. Roberts, who is facing an actual tea party challenger, has said he'll vote against the farm bill.

"You can't be tea party enough," said Kansas Democratic Party chairwoman Joan Wagnon. "It doesn't make for good government."

Some Republicans pushed back, pointing to measures other than the farm bill. Jenkins and Yoder voted in favor of the recent \$1.1 trillion catch-all spending bill, in part because it contained more than \$400 million to build a biology research lab in Manhattan.

Pompeo and Huelskamp voted against that measure.

Indeed, not all the pressure facing at least one Kansas incumbent comes from the tea party right. Huelskamp is likely to face at least one GOP primary opponent who considers himself more to the center on most issues.

And some said the farm bill vote, and others like it, may not be directly related to possible tea party challenges this year. Instead, they said, the delegation may be worried about elections later this decade.

And at some point, they said, statewide offices will open up — the Kansas governorship, for example, or a U.S. Senate seat. All four House members may want to pursue those opportunities, pitting them against each other on the primary ballot.

Votes for federal spending, particularly for programs like food stamps, are typically unpopular in GOP primaries.

"They're playing to the primary electorate," said Burdett Loomis, a political science professor at the University of Kansas. "They're thinking about the day they may run against each other."

Yoder said that theory may give politicians too much credit for advance planning.

"It's a nice, general parlor game to suggest these grand designs," he said. "But in reality, politics is a lot more chaotic than we ever want it to be."

But some longtime Republicans say the ongoing rightward drift of their party, and the splits that has caused, may eventually hurt the GOP brand in Kansas.

"We've always been accused of eating our own," said outgoing Kansas Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger,

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2.

Fitzgerald, Jenkins entering primary political clash

Clash of Kansans pivots on views of conservative leadership

Posted: February 1, 2014 - 8:47pm

By Tim Carpenter

timothy.carpenter@cjonline.com

Congressional candidate newcomer Steve Fitzgerald characterized the handling by Republican leaders of federal policy fights as a frustrating series of defeat and surrender maneuvers.

He expressed contempt for GOP lawmakers moving toward legislation that could deliver amnesty to millions of illegal immigrants.

But the piece of the puzzle motivating him to enter the 2nd Congressional District Republican primary against U.S. Rep. Lynn Jenkins was a decision by GOP brethren in Washington, D.C., to go along with a reduction in future cost-of-living adjustments for military retirees.

The COLA shrinkage won't apply to disabled armed forces personnel or surviving spouses, but others under the age of 62 will receive smaller annual pension increases than promised starting in 2015.

"We've had defeat after defeat, surrender after surrender," said Fitzgerald, a state senator and retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel from Leavenworth. "I understand things are tough in Washington, but we do have the House and I think we should be doing a whole lot better than we have."

His isn't a campaign for federal office built on months of foundational connections with Kansas' political and financial elite. There is no high-priced consultant pulling strings in the wings. He has been cautioned he lacks time, money and alliances to prevail in an August primary.

"I'm not running out of political ambition," Fitzgerald said. "I'm running out of what I consider to be political exigency."

Fitzgerald, a first-term state senator, went public with his insurgency campaign a week ago at the Kansas GOP's convention in Wichita. Fitzgerald is among the Kansas Legislature's conservative members and represents a region heavy with military retirees. His Senate territory covers Leavenworth and parts of Lansing, Bonner Springs, Edwardsville and Kansas City, Kan.

Jenkins is the fifth-highest ranking Republican in the U.S. House. She said her proximity to U.S. House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, serves as a vehicle to influence policy development in ways respectful of Kansas' interests.

"On issues ranging from taxes to immigration to budgetary matters," said Jenkins campaign spokesman Bill Roe, "Congresswoman Jenkins boasts one of the more conservative records in Congress consistent with the values of eastern Kansas."

Roe said Jenkins was prepared for a robust 2014 re-election campaign, with "a hefty \$1.6 million in her bank account," and was confident constituents would remain in her corner.

In 2008, Jenkins defeated by about 1,000 votes five-term U.S. Rep. Jim Ryun in the Republican primary. Ryun was attempting to resurrect his political career after losing the 2nd District seat to a Democrat in 2006.

Jenkins beat state Sen. Dennis Pyle in the 2010 GOP primary by securing 57 percent of the vote to Pyle's 42 percent. She didn't have a rival in the 2010 primary election cycle.

Margie Wakefield, a Lawrence lawyer, is seeking the Democratic Party's nomination in the 2nd District, which includes Topeka and Lawrence while stretching from the Oklahoma to

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Nebraska borders.

Wakefield said the emerging clash between Jenkins and Fitzgerald would reflect dysfunctional squabbling among tea party conservatives in American politics.

"We need elected officials who will go to Washington with an open mind and not be beholden to a set agenda," Wakefield said. "We've got to work across party lines."

Fitzgerald said the performance of Republican leadership in the U.S. House, which includes Jenkins, was "generally poor." He faulted lack of coordinated effort to support U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, the Texas Republican who staged a filibuster in December to foment opposition to federal health insurance reform. The resulting government shutdown produced a flood of bipartisan condemnation, but Cruz expressed no regret about taking the plunge.

"What he demonstrated was there is a lot of fight in the troops," Fitzgerald said. "There wasn't the leadership there to harness that enthusiasm, that willingness to take on large issues and pay the price."

Fitzgerald, who served at the Pentagon and in the special forces before retiring from the military in 1988, said the House Republican leadership should have rejected the deal containing a 1 percent decrease in annual pension benefits for U.S. military veterans starting in 2015.

The change has no impact on Fitzgerald personally, he said, but the move would amount to a \$124,000 reduction in benefits for a retiring lieutenant colonel.

"I don't think that Congresswoman Jenkins had any animus whatsoever toward the military," he said. "She was being the good soldier and doing what the leadership told her."

He said Republicans in the U.S. Senate failed to gain traction for a measure restoring the \$6.3 billion pension raid. Their plan was to make retirees whole with a corresponding cut in federal aid to children of illegal immigrants, he said.

"What is the message to veterans? Your priority is somewhere below dependent children of illegal aliens," Fitzgerald said.

Fitzgerald said interest among House Republicans in immigration reform providing "amnesty for illegal aliens" couldn't be justified.

"Let me see if I've got this right. So, boo for veterans. Yes, for illegals," he said.

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